



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Committee Bill No. 258

LCO No. 2535

02535SB00258TRA

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT CONCERNING FINES FOR FAILING TO YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 14-111g of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

3 (a) For the purposes of this subsection, "moving violation" means
4 any violation of section 14-218a, 14-219, 14-222, 14-223, 14-230 to 14-
5 249, inclusive, as amended, 14-279, 14-289b, 14-299, subsection (c) of
6 section 14-300, as amended by this act, 14-301, 14-302 or 14-303, and
7 "suspension violation" means a violation of section 14-222a or 14-224,
8 subsection (a) of section 14-227a, as amended, or section 53a-56b, 53a-
9 57 or 53a-60d. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may require any
10 licensed motor vehicle operator who is twenty-four years of age or
11 less, who has been convicted of a moving violation or a suspension
12 violation, or both, committed on two or more occasions to attend a
13 motor vehicle operator's retraining program. The commissioner may
14 require any licensed motor vehicle operator over twenty-four years of
15 age, who has been convicted of a moving violation or a suspension
16 violation or a combination of said violations, committed on three or

17 more occasions to attend a motor vehicle operator's retraining
18 program. The retraining program shall (1) review principles of motor
19 vehicle operation, (2) develop alternative attitudes for those attitudes
20 contributing to aggressive driving behavior, and (3) emphasize the
21 need to practice safe driving behavior. The retraining program shall be
22 offered by the Department of Motor Vehicles or by any other
23 organization conducting such a program certified by the
24 commissioner. The commissioner shall notify such operator, in
25 writing, of such requirement. A fee of not more than sixty dollars shall
26 be charged for the retraining program. The commissioner, after notice
27 and opportunity for hearing, may suspend the motor vehicle
28 operator's license of any such operator who fails to attend or
29 successfully complete the program until the operator successfully
30 completes the program. The hearing shall be limited to any claim of
31 impossibility of the operator to attend the retraining program, or to a
32 determination of mistake or misidentification.

33 (b) The commissioner, after notification of and approval by the
34 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, may deduct and
35 retain from the fees collected in accordance with subsection (a) of this
36 section, an amount not to exceed ten dollars per fee, for the cost of
37 implementing the motor vehicle retraining program established in
38 subsection (a) of this section.

39 (c) The commissioner shall adopt regulations in accordance with
40 chapter 54 to implement the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of
41 this section.

42 Sec. 2. Section 14-300 of the general statutes is repealed and the
43 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

44 (a) The traffic authority shall have power to designate, by
45 appropriate devices or markers or by lines upon the surface of the
46 highway, such crosswalks and intersections as, in its opinion,
47 constitute an especial danger to pedestrians crossing the highway

48 including, but not limited to, specially marked crosswalks in the
49 vicinity of schools, which crosswalks shall have distinctive markings,
50 in accordance with the regulations of the State Traffic Commission, to
51 denote use of such crosswalks by school children; and may maintain
52 suitable signs located at intervals along highways, particularly where
53 there are no sidewalks, directing pedestrians to walk facing vehicular
54 traffic.

55 (b) At any intersection where special pedestrian-control signals
56 bearing the words "Walk" or "Don't Walk" are placed, pedestrians may
57 cross the highway only as indicated by the signal. At any intersection
58 where traffic is controlled by other traffic control signals or by police
59 officers, pedestrians shall not cross the highway against a red or "Stop"
60 signal and shall not cross at any place not a marked or unmarked
61 crosswalk. A pedestrian started or starting across the highway on a
62 "Walk" signal or on any such crosswalk on a green or "Go" signal shall
63 have the right of way over all vehicles, including those making turns,
64 until such pedestrian has reached the opposite curb or safety zone.

65 (c) Except as provided in subsection (c) of section 14-300c, at any
66 crosswalk marked as provided in subsection (a) of this section or any
67 unmarked crosswalk, provided such crosswalks are not controlled by
68 police officers or traffic control signals, each operator of a vehicle shall
69 grant the right-of-way, and slow or stop such vehicle if necessary to so
70 grant the right-of-way, to any pedestrian crossing the roadway within
71 such crosswalk, provided such pedestrian steps to the curb at the
72 entrance to a crosswalk or is within that half of the roadway upon
73 which such operator of a vehicle is traveling or such pedestrian steps
74 to the curb at the entrance to a crosswalk or is crossing the roadway
75 within such crosswalk from that half of the roadway upon which such
76 operator is not traveling. No operator of a vehicle approaching from
77 the rear shall overtake and pass any vehicle the operator of which has
78 stopped at any crosswalk marked as provided in subsection (a) of this
79 section or any unmarked crosswalk to permit a pedestrian to cross the
80 roadway. The operator of any vehicle crossing a sidewalk shall yield

81 the right-of-way to each pedestrian and all other traffic upon such
82 sidewalk. [A violation of this subsection shall be an infraction.] Any
83 person who violates any provision of this subsection shall be fined
84 ninety dollars and shall be deemed to have committed a moving
85 violation, as defined in section 14-111g, as amended by this act.

86 (d) In any civil action arising under subsection (c) of this section or
87 sections 14-300b to 14-300d, inclusive, the doctrine of negligence per se
88 shall not apply.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2006	14-111g
Sec. 2	October 1, 2006	14-300

Statement of Purpose:

To raise the penalty for failing to yield to pedestrians.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: SEN. HARTLEY, 15th Dist.

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